NOT FOR PUBLICATION

Executive Committee No.66
August 1953

M I N U T E S

of the

MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

of the

WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

Château de Bossey, Céligny, Switzerland
August 5 - 9th, 1953

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August 5 - 9th, 1953

1. The meeting was called to order by the Chairman at 8:30 p.m. on August 5th, 1953.

2. Attendance

The Bishop of Chichester, Chairman
Dr. Franklin Clark Fry, Vice-Chairman

Presidents: The Archbishop of Thyateira
Bishop Eivind Berggrav
Pastor Marc Boegner
Bishop Bromley Oxnam

Members:
Dr. L.E. Cooke
Prof. G. Florovsky
Sir Kenneth Grubb
Dr. A. Koechlin
Dr. Martin Niemöller
Dr. G.A. Sisco
Mrs. Leslie Swain
Mr. Charles P. Taft

Substitutes:
Prof. H.S. Alivisatos (for Metropolitan Panteleimon)
Mr. M.M. Thomas (for Metropolitan Juhanon Mar Thoma)

Consultants:
Dr. R.P. Barnes
Dr. G.W. Buckner
Mr. Charles C. Parlin
Dr. Ernest A. Payne
The Rev. O.S. Tomkins
President H.P. Van Dusen

Staff:
The Rev. K.M. Baker
Mlle. Madeleine Barot
The Rev. R.S. Bilheimer
Dr. N. Ehrenström
Miss Jean Fraser
Dr. H.H. Harms
Prof. H. Kraemer
Dr. R.C. Mackie
Dr. R.B. Manikam
Dr. R. Nelson
The Rev. D.T. Niles
Dr. O.F. Nolde
Mr. Frank Northam
The Rev. C.W. Ranson
Dr. W.A. Visser 't Hooft

3. Minutes

The minutes of the last meeting held December 29 - 31, 1952 and January 8, 1953, at Lucknow, India, were accepted as circulated.

4. General Secretary's Report

Dr. Visser 't Hooft reported that the Lucknow meeting had on the whole had favourable results and that the decision to hold the meeting in Asia seemed well justified. There had been an amazing coverage in the secular press in India but much less coverage elsewhere. This indicated the need for a Department of Information. The letter on Korea, however, seemed to have received world-wide notice and had even been published by the secular press in Hungary.

As far as the statement on affairs in South Africa was concerned, the reaction on the whole seemed to have been good, particularly in South Africa. In this case the South Africans seemed to feel that the World Council had not spoken until after having ascertained the facts. At the same time it was necessary to point out that politically the situation had deteriorated.

Relationships. As far as the Eastern Churches were concerned Dr. Visser 't Hooft had written a letter to the Patriarch of Moscow after the Lucknow meeting but had received no reply so far. On the other hand, a recent letter from Finland reported that a leading representative of the Russian Orthodox Church visiting there had stated that the World Council was less political now than before 1948. Dr. Visser 't Hooft recalled the invitation from Bishop Péter of Hungary which was presented to the Lucknow meeting. It had been decided that a commission meeting could not be held in Hungary but that a delegation might make a visit. Recently the Chairman of the Executive Committee, Pastor Pierre Maury, Dr. M. Pradervand, Dr. Karl Barth and Dr. Visser 't Hooft himself had all been invited to attend a Synod of the Hungarian Reformed Church to discuss the preparations for Evanston. This matter would come up at this meeting of the Executive. The general interest shown by the Hungarian Churches in the Evanston preparations was considerable and the material sent in to the Geneva office from the Hungarian churches on the Evanston-preparations was considerably larger than that of any other church.

German Democratic Republic. Dr. Visser 't Hooft pointed out that the World Council had been in close touch through meetings and by visits of its staff to Berlin with the recent happenings in the church struggle in East Germany. The steps taken by many of those present and others had had an effect in the changed attitude of the East German authorities. The Junge Gemeinde and Studenten Gemeinde had again been allowed to pursue their activities.

Special journeys and meetings. Reports had been received in Geneva showing that Dr. Manikam's visits had been most useful. In Indo-China he had had great influence in bringing the churches together. American, French, Viet Nam and Chinese had discovered one another. Dr. Nolde had visited Korea twice since the Lucknow meeting. Dr. Rees had also been there. Dr. Nolde's second visit, undertaken at a time when delicate negotiations were going on had shown how the churches could take action in the international sphere.

He was backed up in his mission by the clear stand taken by the Central Committee at Lucknow. Dr. Visser 't Hooft had attended two confessional meetings, that of the International Congregational Council at St. Andrews and that of the World Lutheran Federation in Trondheim. He was especially encouraged to discover that the Lutherans intended, in their new Theological Department, to give first place to the study of the principles involved in relationships with the Ecumenical Movement. Miss Barot had paid two visits to North America and Dr. Chandler, Dr. Mackie and Dr. Walz had also visited the United States.

The Assembly. Dr. Visser 't Hooft reported that a great deal of work had been done in the United States showing that the churches in America were doing all that was possible to prepare for the Evanston Assembly. As far as the overall situation was concerned, the atmosphere in the U.S.A. seemed to be more complex to-day than six months ago. The World Council of Churches needed to remember in its preparations to think in terms of an overall strategy to meet this new situation. In this the Council was strengthened by the backing of the American Churches. It might be that the Council was being sent by God to the U.S.A. at this particular time to perform a special mission. The International Council of Christian Churches seemed to be losing influence outside the U.S.A. even though it was still very active in America.

Dr. Visser 't Hooft reported that at this very time a meeting was going on of Roman Catholic ecumenists who were considering the theme of the Evanston Assembly.

The attendance at the preparatory commissions to be held this month at Bossey would be very good. The factual surveys were well under way.

In summing up, Dr. Visser 't Hooft pointed out that this particular meeting of the Executive would need to consider primarily the subjects related to the Assembly and also public relations, the report of the Committee on Structure and Functioning, staff matters and the preparations for the Joint Committee of the World Council and International Missionary Council.

Discussion on the General Secretary's Report. In the discussion which followed Dr. Manikam pointed out that from his point of view the effect of the Lucknow meeting had been very favourable in India and had had some influence on the Government's attitude towards the entry of missionaries. The Chairman pointed out that he had sent the Korea letter to the British Foreign Office and that Mr. Eden had written directly to him saying how glad he had been to receive the document.

Miss Fraser said that, with reference to the South African situation, the Afrikaans Churches had asked the Youth Department to prepare an itinerary for two young Afrikaans youth leaders travelling in Europe and in the U.S.A. Dr. Payne said that the Baptist Church had recently received a letter from the Russian Baptists which took a more argumentative attitude than previous ones had done. Also four Russian Baptist pastors had recently arrived in Stockholm to confer with Quakers there. Dr. Payne intended to get into touch with those who would see them.

Dr. Niemöller remarked that he had noted during his visit in Budapest that the Russian delegation as well as that of the other people's democracies had shown a less belligerent spirit in their speeches but that the Africans and Asians present still used aggressive language. This might mean that the close relationships between Russia and Asian and African communists were breaking down. He also reported that the situation in the last ten days in the Eastern Zone of Germany had again tightened.

Father Florovsky said that he felt, as far as the Russian Church was concerned, that the decision in 1948 not to participate in the World Council had probably been inspired by the Kremlin. The idea that the Russian Church might now feel that the World Council was less politically minded even after it had become engaged in the work of the C.C.I.A. probably was meaningless in respect of the facts but might reveal a change of mentality. He himself cautioned against too much readiness to accept the Russian church leaders. He had reason to believe that Russian funds were now helping the Orthodox churches in the Middle East. He personally feared that the Russian Church might wish to take part in the Evanston Assembly.

The Chairman felt that the letter received from Finland was important because it indicated that we might be confronted with a new situation in the immediate future. The Council had in fact made plans to have a meeting with the Russian Orthodox representatives in 1946 but that had been postponed sine die at the request of the Russian Church. The question now was what this would mean if suddenly the invitation were accepted. The Chairman pointed out that technically, of course, the invitation no longer held good because it was given by the Provisional Committee and not by the World Council as such.

Dr. Niemöller reported that 10,000 representatives were to be allowed by the East German authorities to go to the Kirchentag in Hamburg this month and also that in recent weeks people from the East Zone had been allowed for the first time for nine years to visit their relatives in the West Zone.

Dr. Visser 't Hooft said that he had no doubt that the Roman Catholic Ecumenical Conference had the approval of the Vatican because Father Boyer was involved. Father Florovsky felt that if Father Boyer were the moving spirit in this affair, it might mean that the Vatican was trying more officially to control the ecumenically minded Roman Catholics. He felt that the great value of men like Father Congar was that they were free-lances.

5. Assembly Matters

A. Entry of Delegates to the U.S.A. Bishop Oxnam reported that the American members of the Sub-Committee appointed by the Central Committee at Lucknow, (Sub-Committee members: The Bishop of Chichester, Miss Sarah Chakko, Dr. Fry, Bishop Oxnam, Pastor Boegner and Dr. Visser 't Hooft) to deal with the entry of delegates to the USA, had made a thorough investigation into the possibility of securing visas for all delegates. The whole Sub-Committee was able to recommend that plans go forward for the holding of the Assembly in the USA. Considerable discussion followed in which it was clear that the Executive Committee was in agreement that the plans should proceed and that the Sub-Committee should remain empowered to study the situation and make any recommendations to the Officers.

Assembly Matters (cont.)

It was

AGREED: that the Sub-Committee appointed at Lucknow be authorized to continue its work, keeping in touch with the various churches concerned and reporting to the February meeting of the Executive and that the Committee agree in the light of this to proceed with the plans of the Assembly, always keeping in mind the stipulations of the Rolle decision. (See p. 17 of Minutes of Central Committee 1951)

B. Allocation of Seats.

(i) New Member Churches: Mr. Bilheimer recommended and it was

AGREED: that the Presbyterian Church of the Gold Coast and the Church of the Province of West Africa be alloted one delegate each. (The allocation for the Russian Orthodox Church in North America had already been made).

(ii) Evangelical and Reformed Church: Mr. Bilheimer reported a request from the U.S. Conference of Member Churches concerning the allocation made to this Church and it was

AGREED: to give one additional place to the Evangelical and Reformed Church.

(iii) Mr. Bilheimer also reported a request from the Conference of U.S. Member Churches and it was

AGREED: that one additional place be allocated to the African Methodist Episcopal Church for a delegate from their Church in Africa.

Dr. Visser 't Hooft asked what provision should be made in case new member Churches should apply for admission to the World Council at the time of the Assembly itself, who would decide how many places should be alloted to them. This decision was postponed until the mid-winter meeting of the Executive.

(iv) Consultants: Dr. Cooke reported that the Sub-Committee had before it the recommendations of the Staff Committee on Assembly Preparations. It had examined these names carefully and had inquired as to which Commission each might most likely contribute. It had also examined the possibility of these persons attending the Assembly and indicated in its report whether or not in its judgment the persons listed were indispensible. The list of names together with names added by the Sub-Committee made the total somewhat over the 150 consultants provided for. This list with certain names added in the plenary session was adopted with the understanding that it should be further considered in the light of the preparatory commission meetings to be held in August. General approval was given to this list and it was

AGREED: that the consultants were primarily to be chosen as experts who would have a real contribution to make to the Sections and Committees;
that the list as generally approved might be modified and that Dr. Van Dusen and Dr. Visser 't Hooft were asked to use their discretion in making such modifications following the meetings in August.

The Executive also hoped that some proposals for consultants might come from the Commission on the Life and Work of Women in the Church and others from the U.S. members of the Executive of persons representing the laymen's and labour viewpoint in the U.S.A.

(v) Associated Body. It was

AGREED: that the officers and staff of the I.M.C. should be considered as a separate category and that the number of their representatives should be decided later by the Officers.

(vi) Fraternal Delegates. a) It was

AGREED: that the following World Christian bodies be invited to send one Fraternal Delegate each:

Baptist World Alliance
Friends World Committee for Consultation
International Congregational Council
Lutheran World Federation
World Methodist Council
World Convention of the Churches of Christ
World Presbyterian Alliance

United Bible Societies
World Council of Christian Education
World's Alliance of YMCA's
World's Student Christian Federation
World's YWCA

b) It was

AGREED: that the following organisations be invited to send one Fraternal Delegate each to the second Assembly:

British Council of Churches
Canadian Council of Churches
National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A.
National Christian Council of China
National Christian Council of India

Australian Council for the W.C.C.
Confederaçao Evangelica do Brasil
Burma Christian Council
Danish Ecumenical Council
Ecumenical Council of Finland
Arbeitsgemeinschaft Christlicher Kirchen in Deutschland
Council of Churches in Indonesia

National Christian Council of Japan
National Christian Council of Korea
Ecumenical Council of Churches in the Netherlands
National Council of Churches in New Zealand
Norwegian Ecumenical Council
Philippine Federation of Evangelical Churches
Swedish Ecumenical Council
The West Pakistan Christian Council

c) It was

AGREED: that the Executive Committee authorise the Officers to invite Fraternal Delegates from the following N.C.C.'s dependent on further consultation with the I.M.C. and the Councils concerned:

National Christian Council of Ceylon
Conseil Protestant du Congo
Council of Evangelical Churches of Cuba
The Jamaica Christian Council
The Christian Council of Malaya
Concilio Nacional Evangélico de Mexico
Christian Council for Missionary Co-operation in the Near East
Association of Evangelical Churches in Puerto Rico
Confederacion de Iglesias Evangelicas del Rio de la Plata (Argentine, Paraguay, Uruguay)
Christian Council of South Africa
Africa - (Gold Coast, Kenya, Nigeria, Nyasaland, Sierra Leone and Tanganyika)

d) It was

AGREED: that the Executive invite intergovernmental organisations with which the W.C.C. is in co-operation to send one representative each who would be given the status of a "Fraternal Delegate". These organisations are:

The United Nations Organisation
The High Commissariat for Refugees
The International Labour Office
UNESCO

<u>International Federation of Protestant Trade Unions</u>

The Executive Committee noted that a request had come from the International Federation of Protestant Trade Unions that they be allowed to have a Fraternal Delegate at the Assembly. After considerable discussion it was

AGREED: that this organisation did not fall into the category of those for which there was precedent for Fraternal representation but is was agreed that someone from this organisation should be invited to attend in the regular consultant's category.

(vii) Observers. It was

AGREED: that the Officers be empowered to invite individual observers at their discretion from the following churches and organisations:

Armenian Orthodox Church
Evangelical Church in Viet Nam
Evangelical Lutheran Church (USA)
Lutheran Church Missouri Synod
Orthodox Church of Yugoslavia
Patriarchate of Moscow
Pentecostal World Organisation
Presbyterian Church of Brazil
Russian Orthodox Church (Anastasy Jurisdiction)
Southern Baptist Convention (U.S.A.)
Syrian Orthodox Patriarchate Antioch
World Evangelical Fellowship

(viii) Roman Catholic Observers: Dr. Visser 't Hooft read a memorandum concerning the problem of Roman Catholic observers at Evanston. After considerable discussion it was decided to refer the question to the Sub-Committee on Consultants, Observers and Fraternal Delegates. This Sub-Committee later reported on its recommendations and, after slight emendation, it was

AGREED: to adopt the following minute:

The General Secretary raised the question of the possible presence of Roman Catholic observers at the Assembly. It was decided that any action on this subject be postponed until the next meeting of the Executive Committee. However it was further pointed out that the World Council of Churches is ready, in conformity with the tradition of the ecumenical movement, to arrange for the presence as observers at the Evanston Assembly of a few Roman Catholic persons who have shown special interest in and understanding of the ecumenical movement.

It was understood that parallel informal conversations would go on in North America and in Europe.

(ix) Report on Youth Consultants. Miss Fraser reported that the churches had been informed about the provisions made for youth consultants and that the Youth Department was still awaiting replies to the invitations.

C. Answers to Official Invitation. Dr. Visser 't Hooft reported gratifying results to the sending of the invitation and indicated that 130 delegates had already been appointed by their churches.

D. Main Theme. Dr. Visser 't Hooft indicated that a vast amount of material had been received from the churches in response to the Second Report of the Advisory Commission. This body would hold its third session at Bossey at the end of August and would then prepare the draft of the report for the Assembly to consider. The intention was to go on working on the draft in the period

following the August meeting and not to publish it until about four months before the Assembly.

The Executive Committee

AGREED: that the draft of the Advisory Commission report should be made available approximately four months before the date of the Assembly.

E. The Subsidiary Themes. Dr. Van Dusen reported that the six preparatory commissions were to meet at Bossey in the ten days following the Executive Committee meeting. Preparatory leaflets had been distributed. Four out of the six factual surveys were already in hand and the other two would be ready in time for the commission meetings. Draft working papers would also be prepared by the commissions to serve as the basis for the work of the sections at the Assembly. One of the problems would be to get enough material so that the factual surveys would give a truly representative picture. On the whole it could be said that there was much more preparation going on now than there had been before the Amsterdam Assembly. The preparatory booklets had been translated and reissued in seventeen countries and we might expect that the discussions at Evanston would be more rigorous and perhaps even stormier than at Amsterdam. There would also then be the need for more intense prayer.

To Dr. Cooke's query as to whether anything was being done to provide the churches with worship material which would aid them in their spiritual preparations for the Assembly, Dr. Visser 't Hooft pointed out that the Pentecostal message next year would be directed to that purpose and that the Executive Committee in February 1954 might well issue a Call to Prayer. Dr. Cooke moved, and it was

AGREED: to ask the staff to issue a collect or prayer which might be widely distributed and used in preparation for the Assembly.

Dr. Ehrenström presented the following nominations and it was

AGREED: that Dr. Leimena be asked to become vice-chairman of the Sub-Commission on International Affairs and that Madame L. Chevalley-Sabatier of Paris and Monsieur David Victoroff, also of Paris, be asked to become members of the Sub-Commission on the Responsible Society.

F. Assembly Business. Dr. Visser 't Hooft pointed out that the Staff Committee had recommended that there be eight committees meeting at the Assembly as follows:

1. Committee on Constitution, Structure and Functioning of World Council of Churches
2. Committee on Membership and Relationships
3. Committee on Division of Studies
4. Committee on Ecumenical Interpretation

5. Committee on Inter-Church Aid and Service to Refugees

6. Committee on the Department of Information

7. Committee on Finance

8. Committee on Nominations

It was

AGREED: to accept this proposal provisionally with the understanding that it should be re-examined at the February meeting of the Executive Committee.

G. Evanston Preparatory Literature. Dr. Mackie presented a proposal (see Appendix A) that two volumes be prepared for the Assembly, one dealing with the description of the work and activity of the Council during the first six years, with appendices containing major statements of the Central Committee and appropriate lists of names, the other in the form of an Assembly work book directed to the use of the members of the various committees at the Assembly was also envisaged. This was approved.

H. Assembly Programme.

(i) Schedule. The Sub-Committee on Programme and Worship recommended an alteration in the programme as called for in the Lucknow Minutes (see page 77ff) on the recommendation of the Staff Committee on Assembly Preparations with further changes by the Sub-Committee as follows:

that the programme on Monday evening, August 16th be the presentation of the Section on Evangelism and the report of the Secretariat for Evangelism;

that on Tuesday, August 17, be the presentation of the Section on Unity and the report of the Faith and Order Commission.

(It was felt that a first plenary evening session on the Evangelism theme would be more appealing to the general public).

that on Friday, August 20th , the W.C.C. Business Committees meet from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. and that the time from 4:00 to 8:00 p.m. be left free for confessional meetings which might be held in the various local churches of Evanston.

It was

AGREED: to adopt the recommendations of the Staff Committee on Assembly Preparations with the above changes (Appendix B).

Bishop Oxnam suggested and it was

AGREED: that time be provided in the programme for the installation of the new officers elected by the Assembly.

Professor Alivisatos asked whether an occasion would be provided to present major church traditions represented in the Council in such a way that the American public would be made aware of the representative nature of the Council, and it was

GREED: to recommend that the Visitors' Programme provide for such presentation.

(ii) Speakers.

Invitation to the President of the United States. The Sub-Committee recommended that the Executive Committee advise the U.S. Conference of Member Churches concerning the desirability of a visit and speech to the Assembly by President Eisenhower.

A discussion followed, participated in by Dr. Koechlin, Bishop Berggrav, Pastor Niemöller, Dr. Payne, Mr. Niles, Dr. Manikam and others in which it appeared that there was general agreement that the President of the U.S.A. should be asked to attend the Assembly, but several speakers pointed out that it should be understood that if the President could not come himself, he should be invited to send a message but that he should not be asked to send a substitute. It was

GREED: to ask the U.S. Conference of Member Churches to invite, in accord with the precedent of other ecumenical gatherings, the President of the U.S.A. to attend the Assembly as head of State;

that he be invited to address the meeting or that in the case that he be unable to attend he be invited to send written or recorded greetings or to make a radio broadcast.

(iii) Speakers on Themes. At the recommendation of the Sub-Committee it was

GREED: that the Executive Committee request the Preparatory Commissions to nominate either one or two speakers for the presentation of the subject matter of their respective Commissions(Sections) to the Executive Committee at its February meeting.

(iv) Speakers for Departments. At the recommendation of the Sub-Committee it was

AGREED: that the Executive Committee request the Departments of the W.C.C. to present proposals for the presentation of their Departmental reports to the Executive Committee at its February meeting.

(v) Speakers for Principal Addresses. On the recommendation of the Sub-Committee it was

AGREED: that the meeting on Wednesday evening, August 18th, should be addressed by an Asian and an African delegate and that Mr. Charles Malik be invited as the Asian speaker. It was further

AGREED: that the names of Dr John Karefa-Smart, Dr. Baeta, Dr. Robert Gardner, and Dr. Busia be referred to the Officers for further consideration and consultation of the staff and that the Officers be empowered to select and invite the second speaker.

The Sub-Committee recommended that the evening of August 24th, be devoted to three addresses: the report of the Secretary in East Asia, and two speeches on World Evangelism and suggested the names of Mr. Charles Ranson and Mr. Chandu Ray.

Bishop Berggrav presented a resolution made at the Bad Boll meeting of the Standing Committee of the United Bible Societies asking the World Council to include in the Evanston programme an address on the Bible in Evangelism today. After discussion it was felt that the only way in which this request could be met at this time was to provide that one of the speeches on the evening of August 18th deal with this topic. It was further suggested that the Preparatory Commission on the Evangelism theme be asked to keep in mind emphasis on the Bible in its presentation.

It was

AGREED: that on the evening of August 24th, there should be the twenty-five minute report of the East Asia Secretary and two twenty-five minute addresses; that Mr. Ranson be asked to give the second on the general subject of World Evangelism, and Mr. Chandu Ray to give the third on the topic of world-wide Evangelism through the Bible, and further to call the attention of the Evangelism Commission to the suggestion made by the United Bible Societies.

The Sub-Committee suggested and it was

AGREED: to ask Bishop Berggrav to give the first address on the evening of August 27th and if he were unable to do this to approach Bishop Dibelius, and that Mrs. Ba Maung Chein be asked to give the second address.

On the recommendation of the Sub-Committee it was further

AGREED: that on the afternoon of Sunday, August 29th, Prof. Reinhold Niebuhr be asked to speak and that if he were unable to do so that President John Mackay be asked.

The Sub-Committee recommended and it was

AGREED: that the Executive Committee request the Assembly to adopt and enforce rigorous time limits upon all speeches.

Dr. Van Dusen pointed out that there would need to be some group which would have a chance to examine the overall picture of those to speak at the Assembly in order to see that it was representative confessionally, geographically and that it included women speakers. It was

AGREED: that the General Secretariat would be responsible for the general coordinating and that a committee consisting of the officers of the Study Department Committee, Dr. Payne, Chairman

of the Worship Committee, and members of the Secretariat should examine the list of speakers and worship leaders after the August meetings in order that they might send out invitations on the basis of this examination; and that final approval should be given by the February Executive Committee.

. Worship and Bible Study.

The Sub-Committee reported that it had heard a report by Dr. Payne, Chairman of the Assembly Worship Committee, concerning consultations by correspondence and during a visit to the USA, dealing with the whole matter of the Assembly worship. The Worship Committee had not yet been able to meet. The Sub-Committee recommended and it was

AGREED: that the Executive Committee approve plans for a procession of delegates, consultants and fraternal delegates during the opening service of worship.

The Executive Committee noted:

that an invitation had been extended by the Methodist Church in the USA to all in the Assembly who were free to do so, to participate in a service of Holy Communion and it was

AGREED: to ask the Worship Committee to provide within the Assembly programme for such services of Holy Communion as were formally requested not later than the Februarymeeting of the Executive Committee.

It was further

AGREED: that in consideration of the request of the Central Committee (Lucknow) that attention be given to the possibility of Bible Study in connection with the worship at the Assembly, to empower the Worship Committee to make arrangements for the morning worship services, providing in them occasions for Biblical exposition at appropriate points, and further to authorise the Worship Committee to arrange for the personnel to lead the worship in consultation with the Secretariat.

Mr. Bilheimer requested guidance on the advisability of providing means whereby Assembly delegates would be available for preaching in the Chicago area on Sunday, August 29th. It was

AGREED: that a list of delegates available for preaching on Sunday, August 29th be sent out to the appropriate officer in the Chicago area, with the following qualifications:

a) that no preaching engagements should be undertaken which would necessitate the absence of delegates during the Assembly Sections;

b) that Mr. Bilheimer have control of the list so that no one who was needed for special committee meetings would be absent from Evanston when his presence was desired.

Bishop Berggrav's proposal on the invitation to communion.
Bishop Berggrav said that he felt duty bound to present the following resolution although it would embarrass some of those present. His recommendation was that the Executive Committee should arrange for one communion service to which it would invite all delegates. He felt that the time had come when we must take a step forward and break through the impasse to which we had come. He then proposed the following resolution:

> We do hope all followers of Christ, taking part in this ecumenical gathering, will share in common the blessed gifts of our Saviour at His holy table.
>
> In doing so we do not minimize any difference of tradition in our respective denominations. On the contrary, through the very respect for the truth and creed dear to any of us, we feel overwhelmingly the respect for Christ Himself. It is He who invites us all to be His guests and offers us directly from Himself His blessed gifts. He alone is the Host, who Himself makes valid His gifts even right through our divisions.
>
> We do not then invite anyone to abandon the tradition or truth by which his church has been blessed and we do not by this occasion intend to institute any change of church order. We feel obliged here and now to give to Christ the full command over His disciples on earth, meeting Him at His table as the one flock of the One Shepherd.

Dr. Payne pointed out that the Worship Committee proceeding on the basis of the Lucknow decision (to accept the Lund recommendations) would have to hold that the Executive Committee had no authority to issue such an invitation. The Chairman felt it would have a divisive effect and would not be within the competence of the Executive Committee. Considerable discussion followed in which most of the members expressed the fear that such an invitation at this time was not desirable but several expressed their deep appreciation of Bishop Berggrav's intention. In order to express the conviction of the Committee on this point a Sub-Committee consisting of the Chairman, Bishop Berggrav, Dr. Cooke, and Dr. Payne were asked to draft a resolution and after further discussion it was

AGREED: that in view of the resolution of the Central Committee at Lucknow (Minutes p.25) the Executive Committee had no authority itself to arrange a Communion Service of the kind suggested by Bishop Berggrav, nor to issue any kind of special recommendation regarding the Open Service which is being arranged by the Methodist Church of the United States; at the same time the Executive Committee decided to place on record its continued concern at the divisions of Christendom, which still make it impossible for the member Churches all to meet together in the Communion Service, and its determination for continued prayer and consultation on this issue.

J. Publicity Preparations for the Assembly.

Mr. Parlin reported that he was working on a publicity budget of $40,000. He did not feel that we would have much of a problem in arousing interest but rather one of providing the right information. Two factors needed to be considered: the pressure of certain reactionary groups and the misunderstanding that might arise on the treatment of the political and social questions. He reported the cooperation of the publicity agencies of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A. Our job would be one of interpreting and avoiding over-selling. He hoped that the programme would be arranged with the publicity factor in mind. It would be important that the text of all speeches be in the hands of the Press by 6 p.m. on the evening that the speeches were to be delivered if the WCC expected to get good coverage. A statement of public relations policy should be made at the beginning of the conference. Plans were being made for four Press rooms: one for the working Press - only for full time journalists representing daily papers; a second for general secular Press, deputised representatives of newspapers; a third for religious Press, and a fourth for foreign language Press. Plans were also going ahead for the WCC to have its own reporting services calling on the assistance of the denominational press. There would also be a place where background material would be available, and arrangements for radio and television coverage were being made for all open meetings. There would probably not be any "live" broadcasts but tape recordings could be secured and the School of Speech at North Western University had well-equipped studios which would be available. Newsreels and filmstrips would also be made. On the whole we ought to expect a small amount of hostile coverage but the great part of the American Press could be expected to give as good a coverage as the W.C.C. made it possible for them to give.

Mr. Taft pointed out that we ought to keep in mind that there should be something for the Press at all times for any gaps would be filled in by groups hostile to the World Council. He also stressed the importance of giving summaries of speeches prepared by the Assembly Press Staff to the secular press. Dr. Barnes cautioned that we ought to recognize that the public was bound to get the impression that the World Council was interested primarily in controversial issues since that was what made the headlines.

Dr. Buckner stressed the importance of enlisting the Church Press and asked if some journalists in this category might not be invited to all section meetings in order that a few in the journalistic field should have a complete background for a more complete interpretation. It was clear that those preparing the discussions should try to avoid the use of terms which would create misunderstanding in the minds of the American public.

K. The Exhibit

Dr. Mackie presented a memorandum asking the Committee's opinion on the advisability of holding an exhibit at the Assembly. It was clear from the discussion following that there would be much popular interest in the Assembly and that some opportunity must be provided for the thousands of visitors to get a total picture of the World Council. Concern was also expressed that a full-fledged exhibit would be impossible within the time and budget available. The matter was referred to the Sub-Committee on Programme and Worship.

After discussion in the Sub-Committee and in the Finance Committee, the Finance Committee presented the following memorandum:

"The sub-committee considered the question of whether to have an exhibit at Evanston at the time of the Assembly in the light of the discussion in the Executive Committee on this question. On the one hand it was recognised that there might be criticism if there were no exhibit. On the other hand it was generally agreed that it would be better to have no exhibit than a bad exhibit and there was considerable doubt as to whether a good exhibit could be arranged for a total expenditure of $10,000. There was thus the same hesitancy in the sub-committee as had been revealed in the discussions at the Executive Committee! The discussion drew attention to the fact that generally and particularly in reference to the Assembly there was need for much more and better photographic material concerning the work of the World Council than was at present available, and after an extended discussion, the sub-committee agreed to recommend to the Executive Committee:

(a) that there shall be no exhibit at Evanston at the time of the Assembly;

(b) that plans should be made for a photograph gallery illustrating the whole work of the World Council of Churches and that the General Secretariat should be authorised to appoint an additional staff member within existing budget provisions to work in this field."

The Executive Committee

AGREED: that there should be no exhibit at the Assembly but that a photographic display of the World Council of Churches and its work be arranged.

L. Local Arrangements

Mr. Bilheimer reported on the local arrangements at Evanston. Housing would be in dormitories and it seemed likely that each delegate would have a room to himself. Meals would be provided cafeteria style in the university dining halls. Meetings would be held in the newly completed McGaw Hall and buses would take the participants from the campus to the Hall and back. Accredited Visitors would be housed in homes in Evanston.

The public would have an opportunity to attend the plenary sessions in McGaw Hall and bleachers would be provided for the general public to the capacity of the Hall. Plans were going ahead to secure an adequate staff for the Assembly, and there were already three special staffs at work in America: (1) the special staff for the Soldiers' Field Event (2) the special Chicago Mid-West area staff and (3) the Evanston local arrangements staff. Plans were going ahead favourably for the projected events in the Chicago area: (1) Soldiers' Field Event (2) the Art Exhibit and (3) the Ravinnia Concert and (4) the Ecumenical Institutes.

The pre-Assembly meetings of the Central Committee, Executive Committee and preparatory commissions would probably be held at the University of Chicago and it was hoped that the meetings of the youth delegation and the women's meeting could be held at Lake Forrest College. To a question, Mr. Bilheimer replied that it would probably be possible to house also delegates' wives.

M. Visitors' Programme

Mr. Baker reported that the Executive Committee of the Conference of U.S.A. Member Churches had suggested to the Executive the advisability of holding a visitors' programme in Cahn Auditorium. A small staff committee had been at work on this and suggested a tentative programme which would provide for seven morning meetings at which the main theme and sub-themes of the Assembly would be presented by a panel of experts from the several commissions, to be followed by an opportunity for informal discussion with the speakers. The afternoon programme would be of a more popular nature and would also provide seven programmes in Cahn Auditorium. The Committee

AGREED: that the staff should proceed with plans according to this tentative outline, submitting them for more final approval at the February meeting.

N. Nominations Committee at the Assembly

Dr. Visser 't Hooft pointed out that according to the Lucknow Minutes (page 26) it had been "AGREED that the Central Committee authorise the Executive Committee at its meeting in February 1954, to appoint a sub-committee on the Preparation of Nominations, to work between then and the Assembly; that this sub-committee consist of not less than three members; that the names of the members of this sub-committee be submitted to the Assembly as a possible nucleus for its own Nominations Committee; but with the recommendation that these members constitute not more than a minority of the latter Committee."

In the light of this the Executive needed to be thinking of people who could serve on the sub-committee. It was

AGREED: that the Executive think in terms of having four members- two from the present Central Committee and two new persons.

Dr. Visser 't Hooft further pointed out that there was confusion among some of the member Churches as to the composition of the Central Committee. A member Church represented on the present Central Committee should not feel that it had any automatic assurance that it would necessarily be represented on the next Central Committee. The Assembly itself elects the members of the Central Committee. The General Secretary asked the members of the Executive to help to clear up this misunderstanding.

O. Assembly Finance

(This is included in the General Report of the Finance Committee, Section 13).

Structure and Functioning

Dr. Cooke reported for the Structure and Functioning Committee. The original report had been accepted in draft form in Lucknow. As was stated in that report however, (Lucknow Minutes p.82) there were still several items left to the consideration of the Committee. Dr. Cooke submitted two documents for the consideration of the Executive Committee:

1. Document on aims and functions of divisions and departments:

Dr. Cooke pointed out that this document might need minor changes; for example the title of the Division on Ecumenical Interpretation might have to be changed as the term "interpretation" gave rise to a confusion with the Department of Information. He welcomed any suggestion from the Executive Committee for an alternative appropriate title. The Committee on Structure and Functioning would meet again in December but asked the Executive Committee at this time to give general approval to the statement on aims and functions. After the Committee had had time to study this document which is attached as Appendix C, it was

VOTED: to give general approval to it.

2. Document on consultative relations (Section X of Structure and Functioning)

Dr. Cooke pointed out that this document attempted to provide for regularized relationships of three types of situations:

a) those in which the National Christian Councils and the missionary councils were completely integrated as in the USA;

b) those in which there was a close association between the National Councils and the missionary councils as in Britain;

c) and those in which the two were completely independent.

Dr. Ranson asked that two major problems be kept in mind in further consideration of these relationships:

i) The need to make clear that any National Christian-Council which was not a Council of Churches would also be recognised.

ii) Possible relations with councils that have no relationship with the IMC.

It was suggested that it might be desirable to add a footnote to the document explaining that the term National Council was intended to refer to such various situations.

Dr. Visser 't Hooft pointed out that paragraph g safeguarded the rights of the World Council to deal directly with the churches. The National Councils would serve however as an aid primarily in matters of programme. The World Council would never take the initiative in setting up a new ecumenical agency in a country but would try whenever possible to work through the existing Council of Churches or National Christian Council. After slight emendation it was

AGREED: to accept the document submitted (Appendix D) as a working paper to be considered at the meeting of the Joint Committee of the WCC-IMC in January 1954.

7. The Basis of the World Council of Churches

Dr. Visser 't Hooft pointed out that the Remonstrant Brotherhood had transmitted a message and had agreed to accept the decision of the Lucknow Central Committee that they could not recommend a change in the theological formulation of the Basis for action at the Assembly.

They had however proposed to add a phrase to the Basis concerning the nature of the ecumenical movement.
(The full text of document received is attached as Appendix E).

The question before the Committee was the way in which the various proposals concerning a change in the Basis and the action taken by the Central Committee should be reported to the Assembly. It appeared in the discussion which followed that there needed to be some explanation as to why the Central Committee had reached the decision not to make a change, but also that this explanation should be as simple as possible. It became apparent that the wisest thing to do was to submit the Appendix report of the Sub-Committee on the Basis, quoted in the Lucknow Minutes (draft statement on the nature of the Basis of the W.C.C.) to the Assembly as a document for its consideration and to change the title of that document to "Statement on the Purpose and Function of the Basis of the World Council of Churches" in order not to imply that it was in any sense a theological document. The general wording of the Minute to the Assembly then was referred to a special Sub-Committee consisting of the Chairman, Dr. Cooke and Dr. Koechlin. At a later point in the meeting the Sub-Committee submitted a new text of the report to the Assembly on the Basis. After slight emendation it was adopted and is attached as Appendix F.

Invitations from the Hungarian Churches

The General Secretary reported that invitations had been received by the Chairman and himself to visit the Reformed Church of Hungary. The only time when they could go together was next January. The Chairman expressed his willingness to go if it were considered useful in the interests of church relations and read the letter he had received and his own answer in which he had promised to bring the matter before the Executive Committee. In the discussion which followed it was pointed out that it would be desirable that, if the visit were made, the Chairman and General Secretary should endeavour to visit both member Churches in Hungary. Dr. Mackie reported that he had visited Hungary two years ago and the Mr. Micheli had been there last year and that the rank and file of the church members desired such visits. It was agreed that if the visit were undertaken the Chairman and the General Secretary should not make statements about the state of the country in general but confine themselves exclusively to church affairs. Several members expressed approval of the proposal for the visit. Father Florovsky asked that it be recorded that he would not favour such a visit. The Chairman ruled that if no motion were made to the contrary he would understand it that he and the General Secretary would be asked to use their discretion in the light of the general situation in January and to act accordingly. There being no motion the ruling stood.

Joint Committee of the IMC-WCC

The General Secretary reminded the Committee that the Joint Committee is to meet in January and asked for confirmation of the WCC representatives After discussion, it was,

AGREED: that the WCC representatives be Pasteur Boegner, the Bishop of Chichester, Dr. Cooke, Dr. Fry, and Dr. Koechlin; and that a sixth person be chosen from Asia or Africa by the Chairman and the General Secretary.

Dr. Mackie, Secretary with Dr. Goodall of the Joint Committee, reported that four items were at present on the agenda:

- the Joint Secretariat in East Asia
- the CCIA
- The remit from Lucknow calling for a study of the meaning of "association" between the two bodies. (The question of WCC rules governing relations to NCC's is related to this).
- Inter-Church Service, both emergency service, especially in connection with refugees as already agreed between the two bodies, and the long range problem of associated work in this area.

Dr. Ranson stated his gratification at the initiative of the Asian Study Conference in regard to closer association and integration, but recalled those elements within the IMC constituency which looked with disfavour upon integration. A process of education was required, and it was to be hoped that the forthcoming study of the matter would contribute to it. The agreement concerning emergency Inter-Church Service was important, both in itself and in method, for it established a precedent whereby one body served on behalf of the other. This was decidedly preferable to a new joint agency. In regard to the long range programme the IMC would wind up its Intermission Aid Fund in the relatively near future and it was to be hoped that understanding might be developed in connection with the more far-reaching problems of inter-church service to be carried on by the two organisations.

The Executive Committee asked that the three following items also be considered by the joint committee:

1) The Possibility of a joint cooperative study programme in Asia. (Dr. Kraemer asked that this also include the examination of the possibility for creating a study centre in India which would deal with the more general topics of the religious and cultural situation in Asia and examine the present changes going on in Asian society.)

2) The relations between the IMC and the Department of Evangelism of the W.C.C.

3) The possibility of a joint secretariat for Africa.

Dr. Kraemer and Dr. Van Dusen both emphasised the great importance of the last possibility. It was further understood that the Executive Committee were not giving a directive to the Joint Committee but allowing freedom to examine all of these items. In conclusion it was

AGREED: to accept the general summary on the work of the Joint Committee

1. <u>Commission of the Churches on International Affairs</u>

Sir Kenneth Grubb, Chairman of the CCIA, indicated that a report was available in printed form. He regretted to report that Baron van Asbeck must retire as President and that it would be very difficult to find a successor. He paid tribute to Dr. Fagley for his assistance in a difficult period for the commission. He also pointed out that Mr. Eastman had been serving in two different capacities in London and had been doing it with great ability. The CCIA was still working on the international level primarily with the United Nations and Unesco. The problem remaining was whether more emphasis should not be placed on

a regional evolution and representation. There had been some demand for a CCIA organisation for Western Europe but it had not seemed that there was really justification for such an office and the events seem to have borne this out. An office was much desired in the Far East but it was not yet apparent where it should be located, whether it should receive the support of the churches and whether the man and the resources were available. The CCIA had been very much concerned about the self-governming territories, especially within the British Commonwealth and in general with the racial question. It was not yet clear to what extent an ecumenical body should approach a national government and to what extent action should be remitted to the national council of the country concerned. Sir Kenneth asked the committee to consider this problem. He paid special tribute to Dr. Rees and Dr. Nolde for their work and mentioned particularly the trips that both had made to Korea.

Dr. Nolde reported on his trip to Korea stating that he had felt particularly fortunate in being backed up by the statements of the Central Committee in Lucknow advocating a truce and that he had met cooperation from all concerned during his visit. It was impossible to state just what effect the visit had had on the actual signing of the truce but the important thing had been that the CCIA could take action to provide the kind of atmosphere among Christians that was necessary for any profitable understanding.

The Chairman thanked Dr. Nolde for his visit and for his illuminating report. Dr. Mackie pointed out that the need now was for a voluntary programme for rehabilitation to help in those areas where governmental relief was not available. It was clear that the World Council was interested in helping all the churches in Korea but also it needed to be frankly stated that the chances of getting into North Korea were not very good. Dr. Koechlin pointed out that the principle involved was that we were helping Koreans on both sides and we would go wherever we were allowed to go. Dr. Rees pointed out that the World Council went into Korea to assist the churches in Korea wherever the churches could operate freely.

Korea Resolution

After further discussion and at a later meeting the following resolution was

VOTED: The Executive Committee at its first meeting after the cessation of fighting in Korea upon the conclusion of a truce,
Noting that a way had been opened for an approach to the critical problems of political unification and effective rehabilitation by processes of negotiation and reconstruction;
Urged upon the member Churches their obligatiom to press their governments to participate fully in all inter-governmental relief measures, and themselves to support through Christian liberality the Relief Committee of the National Christian Council of Korea in making its vital Christian contribution to the work of national reconstruction; and
Declared its intention to secure, through the Department of Inter-Church Aid and Service to Refugees, the widest possible co-operation of member Churches in working through churches in both South and North Korea, always with the definite understanding that the distribution be in the hands of church agencies, and that the identity of the giving churches be freely disclosed.

11. The Report of the Department of Inter-Church Aid

Dr. Mackie called attention to the Year End Report which had been published and was available to the members of the Committee. He pointed out that the floods in Holland had shown how the churches' response to the needs of their sister churches could be channelled through the agencies of the World Council and the corresponding national bodies. Approximately $500,000 had been given to the Dutch Church about half of this coming from America and the other half from non-American churches including a gift of $2,000 from the Waldensian Church in Italy. The occasion of the floods provided a proof that the churches wanted inter-church aid. In Germany help had been provided for the refugees and further support had been given to the Church in West Germany for the reception of the refugees.

In the year ahead the Department would suffer from the loss of two of its members: Mr. Robert Tobias who had already left for America and Mr. Bengt Hoffman who would leave for Sweden in the fall. Mr. Ray Maxwell would take over Mr. Tobias' work in relation to the Orthodox countries and Mr. Madsen of Denmark would replace Mr. Hoffman.

The Year End Report clearly indicated that the Service Programme had provided another opportunity for the Churches to act together. The work for refugees had progressed and 1085 had been settled in Brazil, 1475 in Canada, but only 369 in the U.S.A.

Each one of these cases had meant long and difficult transactions. The Samar centre for hard-core refugees in the Philippines had been completely liquidated. The question now is what does the new American bill allowing for the entry of a large number of persons mean for the World Council refugee programme. The answer is not apparent but it is clear that both the American churches and the WCC will have much to do.

One of the most important recent developments had been the implementation of the decision of the Ad Interim Committee of the IMC to authorize the Department of Inter-Church Aid to act on behalf of both organisations in an emergency inter-church aid programme. This new opportunity carries with it grave responsibilities. Mr. Rees had made a visit to Korea and had reported on the very great human need there. The churches in Germany, Britain, Australia, New Zealand and other countries had shown an interest in helping the Koreans. Such aid promised to be a not exclusively American affair. The churches in the U.S.A. and in Australia as well as in Britain were raising money for Korea. In India there had been a great shortage of water. Much help was going to that country but one of the problems of the Inter-Church Aid Department was to relate the various groups at work there. In the whole Asian scene there was need for a staff person who would have both the vision to organise a programme and the ability to carry it through.

With the view in mind of developing the world-wide emergency programme and with the awareness of responsibility which the new American bill would bring, the Administrative Committee of the Inter-Church Aid Department had proposed a budget of $750,000 for 1954.

Dr. Lund-Quist had left the Administrative Committee. Mr. Whiting had already been substituting for Dr. Lund-Quist and had proved a very active participant in the Inter-Church Aid meetings.

The Committee received the report and

AGREED: that Mr. Whiting should replace Dr. Lund-Quist and that an American member also be accepted by the Committee and be ratified by the Executive next February.

Dr. Koechlin spoke with appreciation of the aid the American churches had given whenever the need arose. He also paid tribute to Mr. Tobias' work in making possible the relations which exist with the Church in Yugoslavia. He was grateful for the new relationship with the IMC in the emergency programme and praised the work of Dr. Mackie and other members of the staff. Dr. Niemöller pointed out that the German churches were indeed eager to aid the churches in Korea but hoped to be able to reach those on both sides of the political divide. Dr. Mackie said that the United Nations' Relief Programme was intended for all Korea but that the representatives had not been allowed north of the dividing line. The Department itself was not carrying on a programme in its own name in Korea but was helping the Korean churches wherever it could. The principle involved in all of the World Council programmes is one in which churches help their sister churches. It was also pointed out that there had been generous gifts from the troops in Korea but that the projects sponsored by them were in a precarious position because the turn over of troops was so great that a continuity of interest was lost. Dr. Payne pointed out that the British as well as the Dutch churches had received generous gifts at the time of the floods and that the Lutherans had been especially generous in helping churches of all confessions. Dr. Mackie pointed out that the Department was aware of this but found it more difficult to get statistics on the British churches than on the Dutch since in Holland the Department of Inter-Church Aid's Sub-Committee had actually channelled the gifts. At the end it was

AGREED: to receive the Director's report with gratification.

Report of the Joint Secretary for East Asia

Dr. Manikam reported on his recent six months' journey. He had found Burma fast becoming a welfare state. This was making encroachments upon the Church, in that hospitals and educational institutions were more and more being taken over by the state. He had also noted an intensity in the resurgence of Buddhism even greater than that in Thailand and Ceylon. The Sixth World Buddhist Council would meet from the Full Moon Day of May 1954 to the Full Moon Day of May 1956 and would be transmitting and translating the Buddhist Scriptures. A Buddhist University of the East was also being planned.

In Thailand he had found the Christian community numerically the weakest, there being only about 17,000 Protestants and 40,000 Roman Catholics. The Church of Christ in Thailand was largely Presbyterian and also included churches which had grown out of the missionary work of other churches. The Protestant community was especially weak in its relations with the state. Through his visit, Dr. Manikam had been able to make possible cordial relations between one of the leading evangelists, who had broken with the Church and the church leaders.

In Indo-China the largest mission was that of the Christian and Missionary Alliance which does not co-operate with the World Council. Dr. Manikam had been able to achieve warm personal relationships with many of these church leaders and also to bring them into closer contact with French and Chinese Churches. Indo-China has the fourth largest Christian community in Asia, being out-ranked only by the Philippines, India and Indonesia. The Viet Nam Church showed remarkable strength. Seventy-five per cent of its churches had been self-supporting before the recent trouble started. The Chinese Church was the strongest outside China itself. Dr. Manikam said he especially hoped that it would be possible to invite an accredited visitor or an observer from the Viet Nam Church (C.M.A.) to the Evanston Assembly.

In Indonesia he had been able to attend the meeting of the Council of Churches which has a membership of thirty bodies embracing some one and a half to two million Christians. Eighty-five delegates had been present from twenty-seven churches and the indigenous leadership showed great strength. He found that the relations between the missionaries and the churches were constantly improving and that the enthusiasm for Christian unity was very great. It was hoped that there might be a Christian university in Indonesia and the Union Seminary in Macassar might come to serve all the churches of Eastern Indonesia.

At the conclusion of this report, the Chairman thanked Dr. Manikam on behalf of the Committee for his report and for the work which he had been able to do.

In the discussion which followed Dr. Manikam pointed out that any invitation sent to the Church in Viet Nam should go directly to the Church and not to the missionary societies, as he had discovered that the invitation to attend the Kottayam Youth Conference had never actually reached the Church itself.

13. Finance

Bishop Oxnam presented the report of the Finance Sub-Committee. He pointed out that in each year since the Amsterdam Assembly the World Council accounts had closed with a surplus and drew attention to the facts that funds seem to be assured to cover the budget for the Second Assembly, the supplementary budget for public relations in connection with that Assembly and the special budgets (for which the World Council is not responsible) for the Soldiers' Field Event in Chicago and for the local committee in Evanston. He suggested that these facts demonstrated that the stewardship of the Central and Executive Committees would stand detailed scrutiny by the Second Assembly. The Finance Sub-Committee had reported as follows:

A. Final Audited 1952 Accounts

The Finance Sub-Committee had received and discussed the printed final audited 1952 accounts. The Sub-Committee had reviewed the position as revealed by the balance sheet and had noted the improvement in the strength of the World Council's position since the Amsterdam Assembly. In particular it had been noted that the general reserve had been built up to Frs. 440,722.09 or about $105,000 and that the general reserve for the Ecumenical Institute amounted to Frs. 292,739.52 or nearly $70,000. In addition, the properties at route de Malagnou and

at Bossey had an insured value of/Frs. 2,300,000 or over $500,000 and the mortgage debts on them were only Frs. 266,984.44 or about $62,500. The final surplus shown by the 1952 accounts amounted to Frs.20,066.36 or about $4,688 and had been allocated in accordance with the decisions taken by the Central Committee at its meeting at Lucknow.

The Sub-Committee had agreed to recommend to the Executive Committee

that the audited accounts of the World Council of Churches for the year ended December 31st, 1952 be accepted.

B. 1952 Accounts - Ecumenical Press Service

The Sub-Committee had examined the final accounts of the Ecumenical Press Service for 1952 and had noted that there was a deficit on the year's operations of Frs. 4,315.69 or a little over $1,000. It was recalled that this was about the deficit forecast at the Lucknow meeting of the Central Committee and that at that meeting it had been decided that the deficit should be covered from the World Council's surplus for the same year. It had also been decided at that meeting to provide in the 1953 World Council budget for an increase of from $2,000 to $3,000 in the World Council's subsidy to E.P.S. in order to avoid deficits on the E.P.S. accounts in future years.

The Sub-Committee had agreed to recommend to the Executive Committee:

that the accounts of the Ecumenical Press Service for the year ended December 31st, 1952 be accepted, subject to certification by the auditors, by the World Council of Churches as one of the bodies sponsoring that Service.

C. Approved Level of Expenditure for 1953 - General Budget

It had been reported that in the first six months of 1953 expenditure exceeded revenue by Frs. 12,016.27 or about $2,800. This was the most favourable position at the end of the first half of the year which had been reported in any year since the Amsterdam Assembly. The Sub-Committee had been informed that no reason had arisen for any significant change in the budget adopted by the Central Committee at Lucknow and that there was good reason to hope that the revenue budget would be achieved; in any case it was clear that there would be no considerable short-fall, and that if revenue should run slightly below budget level, it should be possible to restrict expenditures so as to ensure that the 1953 accounts closed without deficit.

The Sub-Committee had agreed to recommend to the Executive Committee:

that approval be granted for operations to be continued in 1953 on the basis of the budget adopted by the Central Committee at Lucknow totalling $355,000 on the understanding that, if necessary, expenditure would be limited to a slightly lower level so as to ensure that it does not exceed revenue.

D. Department of Inter-Church Aid and Service to Refugees -

Service Programme Budget 1953

The Sub-Committee had received a report on actual expenditure on the Service Programme in the first six months of 1953. This report showed that, on all sections of the Service Programme except the

Service to Refugees, expenditure was running at or below budget level. It was further reported that there was no reason to anticipate any difficulty in keeping expenditures on the Service Programme other than Service to Refugees within the budget level.

As regards the Service to Refugees, the figures presented to the Sub-Committee indicated that net expenditure in the first six months amounted to about $294,000 as against a budget for the six months of $200,000. It was however reported that those figures did not reflect the full amount of special gifts which had been assured for the Service to Refugees and that it was confidently expected that it would be possible over the full year to present a report on the Service Programme closing without deficit. It was recalled that in previous years the situation at June 30th had on several occasions appeared as unfavourable as, or more unfavourable than, that reported for the current year.

After discussion the Sub-Committee had agreed to recommend to the Executive Committee:

> that approval be granted for the continuation of operations under the Service Programme on the basis of the approved budget for 1953 totalling $650,000 and on the understanding that the position would be kept under control by the Administrative Committee of the Department and that expenditure would be limited if there appeared any danger of revenue being insufficient to cover the year's expenses.

E. General Budget 1954

The Sub-Committee had been informed that it appeared that the 1954 budget could be a repetition of the 1953 budget except for two important changes, namely:

(1) that by decision of the Executive Committee at Lambeth in February 1952, there should be provided in the 1954 budget $5,000 for the General Reserve and $35,000 for the Assembly Reserve instead of $20,000 for each reserve as in previous years. (This change affects the detail but not the total of the budget.)

(2) that in accordance with the decision of the Amsterdam Assembly $5,000 less should be drawn from the reserve for the Ecumenical Institute towards the annual budget and therefore $5,000 more would be needed in member Church contributions.

Three other less important changes had been reported and in general it had been stated that it appeared likely that revenue would be forthcoming in 1954 to cover a budget based on the 1953 budget and amended only in those few items.

The Sub-Committee agreed to recommend to the Executive Committee:

> that authority should be given for operations to be continued for the first few weeks of 1954 on the basis of the 1953 budget level, subject to the few stated amendments, and that the position should be reviewed again by the Executive Committee on the basis of the detailed 1954 budget to be presented to the Executive Committee meeting in February 1954.

F. Department of Inter-Church Aid and Service to Refugees

Service Programme Budget 1954

The Sub-Committee had discussed the suggested service programme budget for 1954 which had been considered and recommended by the Administrative Committee of the Department. This budget totalled $750,000 as compared with a budget of $650,000 for 1953. Dr. Mackie had explained the budget in some detail and had drawn attention to the fact that provision was made for operations outside Europe in accordance with the discussions which had taken place between the World Council and the I.M.C. and in accordance with the decisions taken by the Executive Committee meeting in August 1952 and the Central Committee meeting in December 1952 / January 1953. Dr. Mackie had further explained that there were reasons to hope for increased revenue of perhaps $20,000 from non-American sources in 1954 and that the extension of operations into new fields should lead to revenue from new sources.

There had been a discussion as to the degree of detail in which the Sub-Committee should examine the Service Programme budget. Dr. Koechlin had pointed out that it is a budget entirely separate from the general budget of the World Council, that the nature of the programme is such that flexibility is essential so that changes can be made to adapt the programme to changing needs (e.g. the possibility that activity may become possible on a major scale in Korea and the changes that would be necessary following the new U.S. legislation for the admission of new migrants into the U.S.A.) and that detailed and constant control of the programme is exercised by the Administrative Committee of the Department.

The Sub-Committee had agreed to recommend to the Executive Committee:

that the Director of the Department of Inter-Church Aid and Service to Refugees be authorised to seek to raise funds for the service programme for 1954 on the basis of a budget totalling $750,000.

During the discussion of the service programme budget for 1954, the Sub-Committee had considered the problem arising from the inadequacy of the reserves available for the service programme. It had been recognised that, on the one hand, there were serious dangers in operating a programme as large as that of the Service to Refugees without reasonable reserves but that, on the other hand, it was difficult to justify setting aside money for reserves when to do so involved reducing the work done during the current year to relieve very real present needs. The Sub-Committee had decided to record the following conclusion in its minutes:

> The Finance Sub-Committee has observed with gratification that the accounts of the Department of Inter-Church Aid and Service to Refugees show reserves for the Service Programme of nearly $95,000 at the end of 1952. Since the services offered by this Department are directed to churches and individuals in distress and cannot be terminated abruptly without severe hardship, this Sub-Committee would prefer to see the reserves brought to a somewhat larger and so more adequate figure and in any case expresses the judgment that the reserves should not be decreased.

G. Budget for the Second World Assembly

It had been recalled that the Executive Committee meeting at Lambeth in February 1952 had adopted a budget for the Second Assembly totalling $267,500 but that, at that time, forseeable revenue had amounted to only $172,000 so that the budget showed need for additional revenue of $95,500. It had further been recalled that this budget had been approved by the Central Committee meeting at Lucknow.

Mr. Bilheimer reported that encouraging progress had been made. Extra revenue of $44,600 had been promised in the form of special gifts from churches in the U.S.A. and there were reasonable prospects of a further $19,000 from this source. There was therefore need for an amount of $31,900 still to be found. The normal annual giving of individuals for the support of the U.S.A. Conference of Member Churches was about $60,000 and it therefore seemed quite possible that the response to a special appeal to those individuals for a doubled gift in the Assembly year might produce the full amount and even some extra contribution towards the extra budget of $40,000 for public relations. Furthermore the present revenue forecasts included only $10,000 from the proceeds of sales of tickets for the meetings at Evanston and it now seemed likely that a greater sum would be realised. Finally an encouraging response had been received to approaches to foreign missionary and other agencies within the churches and to confessional bodies for direct aid to individual delegates for their travel to Evanston (such approaches were authorised by the Executive Committee meeting at Lambeth) and two churches had preferred to make cash grants to be administered by the World Council for travel aid totalling $1,500.

The Sub-Committee had been greatly encouraged by this report, from which the conclusion drawn was that there seemed no reason to suggest any change in the Assembly budget and that there were good prospects that the full revenue required for the Assembly would be raised.

Mr. Parlin had reported on the special budget of $40,000 for public relations in connection with the Evanston Assembly. He stated that there had as yet been no solicitation of gifts but some gifts had none the less been received. An appeal was to be issued in the autumn over the names of himself, Mr. Charles Taft and Mrs. Mildred Horton and he had no doubt that the full amount could be raised. The only comments which he had received on the budget were suggestions that it should be much higher but he was convinced that it would be sufficient for the task to be undertaken.

Mr. Bilheimer had also reported on two other budgets connected with the Assembly for which the World Council is not responsible, namely, the $40,000 budget for the Soldiers' Field event and the $25,000 budget of the local committee in Evanston. The first was well on the way to being underwritten by congregations and denominational bodies of the greater-Chicago area and the local churches of Evanston were making good progress towards raising the second.

The Sub-Committee had received all of these reports with encouragemer and agreed to record their appreciation of the work done by Mr. Bilheimer which lay behind the favourable reports and also their gratitude for this further demonstration of the generosity of the churches of the U.S.A

H. Possible appeal in connection with the Evanston Assembly

The Sub-Committee had discussed the possibility of an appeal for special gifts at the time of the Evanston Assembly. It had been noted that consideration was being given to an appeal at the Sunday night meeting on the subject of Inter-Church Aid and Service to Refugees for special giving for that work.

After discussion the Sub-Committee had reached the unanimous conclusion that there should be no appeal to those present at Evanston for gifts for the World Council work. It was felt that the endeavour should rather be to secure a deeper commitment by those present to promoting and sustaining the normal contributions through church channels and through individual gifts to the annual budgets.

I. Level of Annual Budgets for the post-Evanston period

The Sub-Committee had given provisional consideration to the level of annual budgets which would be necessary in the post-Evanston period on the basis of the present thinking and the present planning of the Committee on Structure and Functioning. The general conclusion indicated was that revenue from member Churches and individual gifts would need to be increased by some $85,000 even though the plans involved no increase in the programme adopted by the Amsterdam Assembly. It had been felt that some indication of the need for increased contributions must be given to member Churches now: it was already somewhat late since some churches fix their budgets three or four years in advance; furthermore it was highly desirable that member Churches should give consideration in advance of the Assembly to the possibility of increasing their contributions.

Dr. Fry had suggested that it would be valuable if after the present meeting of the Executive Committee, the General Secretary could send a communication to all Central Committee members advising them of the plans and the state of preparations for the Assembly and he suggested that a paragraph on this question might be included in such a communication.

The Sub-Committee had received a report on the financial needs for the Departments of the World Council and discussed with Sir Kenneth Grubb and Dr. Nolde the needs of the C.C.I.A. On this latter question they were advised that an increase of $20,000 in the revenue of C.C.I.A. was necessary merely to grant certain long-overdue salary increases, to cover the expenses of work at the present level and to provide means sufficient to ensure the possibility of continuing the work if the present voluntary services of the Chairman and the exceptionally favourable financial arrangements regarding the present Director ceased to be available.

The Sub-Committee had adopted that following draft for a paragraph to be included in a letter to Central Committee members:

> 'In an effort to be far-sighted, the Finance Sub-Committee took a first look at the probable size of the World Council budget in the years following the Evanston Assembly, It became apparent at once that increased contributions from member Churches will be necessary merely to bring into full action the World Council organisation as it was projected at Amsterdam with modifications arising out of the present draft of the report of the Committee on Structure and Functioning:

(1) The support for the Ecumenical Institute from the fund created by the gift of Mr. John D. Rockefeller, Jr., will no longer be available and, without any increase in the expenditure budget, this will involve need for an increase of $35,000 in revenue.

(2) The filling of vacant posts for Associate General Secretaries will increase expenditure by perhaps $15,000.

(3) The bringing together of the now separate items in the budget for Public Relations and the creation of a Department of Information headed by a Director, will increase expenditure by perhaps $15,000.

(4) To maintain and to place on a sounder financial basis the work of C.C.I.A. will necessitate an increase in the budget of about $20,000.

As you will see, the above items imply an increase of about $85,000 which is approximately 25% of the total present giving of member Churches. The Assembly itself will of course make all final decisions regarding the programme of the World Council on which these figures are based. It would however be most helpful if you could arrange for consideration to be given by the appropriate officers or committee of your Church to the provisional indications given above.'

J. Investment Portfolio

The Sub-Committee had received for information a statement of the investment portfolio, appointed an investment committee to supervise the investment of funds and agreed to recommend to the Executive Committee:

That interest received on investments should first be used to write investments down from purchase cost to par value and thereafter be set aside in an Investment Fluctuations Fund.

K. Personnel Allowances

The General Secretariat recommended the granting of Dependent Relative Allowances to certain staff members and of home leave travel allowance to one staff member in accordance with the decisions taken by the Central Committee meeting at Rolle in 1951. The Sub-Committee had agreed to recommend to the Executive Committee that approval should be given for the granting of those allowances.

L. Properties at route de Malagnou

The Sub-Committee had received a full report on the progress of negotiations concerning 15 route de Malagnou and noted that it was now certain that that property would become available for an extension of the headquarters office properties. The Sub-Committee had agreed to recommend to the Executive Committee:

that the mandate of the ad hoc committee appointed by the Central Committee at Lucknow consisting of the Chairman of the Finance Committee Dr. Fry, Dr. Koechlin and Dr. Cooke, should be renewed and that, in addition to the power to approve the purchase of 15 route de Malagnou, that ad hoc committee should be given a more general power to approve any other action which may become necessary in connection with that property, in the period prior to the meeting of the Executive Committee in February 1954.

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M. Reconstruction and Transformation of Château de Bossey

The Sub-Committee had been informed that the accounts for the work on the reconstruction and transformation of the Château de Bossey had finally been closed and that it had come to light that the architects' provisional estimates of the final figures which were the basis of the reports at Nykøbing and at Lucknow, did not take account of the expenses for certain work which they were asked to do after May 1952, and for certain purchases and work which relate to the furnishing rather than to the reconstruction of the buildings. The above expenses had still further diminished the amount available for the maintenance reserve and whereas it was reported at Nykøbing and Lucknow that the amount would not be less than Frs. 35,000, the final figure was likely to be only Frs. 15,000.

The Sub-Committee had noted that the Building Committee had not had an opportunity to study the final results and decided to defer until the mid-winter Executive, consideration of the acceptance of the final figures and the discharge of the Building Committee.

Bishop Oxnam moved to the adoption of the Sub-Committee's recommendations. Dr. Boegner expressed in the name of the Committee gratitude to the member Churches in the U.S.A. for their continued generosity and for their generosity in connection with the funds needed for the Second Assembly.

In connection with the level of the annual budgets for the post-Evanston period Dr. Payne asked whether the Finance Sub-Committee had considered how to raise the extra revenue needed and whether there were some member Churches who are not making a reasonable contribution. Bishop Oxnam replied that the suggested paragraphs for a letter to Central Committee members were intended to give warning that increased revenue would be needed and to encourage consideration by member Churches of this problem on the basis of expectation of the need for an increase of 25% in member Church contributions. Dr. Fry pointed out that certain member Churches should, on the basis of fair sharing of financial responsibility, increase their giving by more than 25% of their present level and also that the Assembly might decide on increases in the World Council programme which would necessitate a further increase in revenue.

After discussion the Executive Committee

AGREED: to adopt the recommendations made by the Finance Sub-Committee on each of the times recorded above.

Czech Baptists

Dr. Payne voiced the concern of the World Baptist circles about the recent trial and sentencing of four Baptist pastors in Czechoslovakia. In the trials it had been claimed that the Baptist World Alliance had served as an agency of the U.S. State Department. The Baptist World Alliance had rejected such accusation. Certain attacks by the press had also linked the W.C.C. and other organisations with the U.S. State Department. The Committee felt that some action was undoubtedly called for but felt that caution should be taken to ensure that the wisest policy was followed and after considerable discussion it was

AGREED: that the Chairman be authorized to send a letter of deep concern and enquiry to the Czech Foreign Ministry about the recent trial and sentencing of a number of Baptist pastors in Czechoslovakia.

15. Letter from Princess Wilhelmina

Bishop Berggrav read a letter which he had received from Princess Wilhelmina informing the Executive Committee that she intended to hold a meeting of the representatives of the various Christian youth organisations in the Hague in November. At the conclusion of the discussion it was

AGREED: that the Chairman be asked to write to Princess Wilhelmina informing her that the Committee received her letter with great appreciation and hoped that God would bless her conference and that it might produce fruitful results.

It was hoped also that Miss Fraser might be able to attend the meeting.

16. The Ecumenical History

The Chairman and the General Secretary both expressed the deep appreciation of the Executive Committee for all the help received from the Disciples of Christ in the USA for the preparation of the Ecumenical History. Dr. Buckner reported that both Miss Rouse and Bishop Neill had carried the responsibility which was indeed great. In recognition of their work the Culver-Stockton College, Canton, Missouri, USA, had conferred the degree of Doctor of Divinity, Honoris Causa, on Bishop Neill and that of Doctor of Letters, Honoris Causa, on Miss Rouse.

The publication of the Ecumenical History was expected in March 195 and the Chairman expressed the hope that the offices in New York and and in Geneva would do all in their power to publicize it especially among colleges, seminaries and libraries.

17. The Chapel of the Ecumenical Institute

Dr. Mackie reported on the completion of the chapel at the Ecumenical Institute which had received the favourable comments of many visitors. He then reported the recommendations of a small committee recommending furnishings for the chapel. These recommendations would be examined by the board of the Ecumenical Institute. (The Report is attached as Appendix G). Dr. Mackie further announced that the Institute had received the gift of a small organ which accorded with the recommendations of the committee. It might well be that other furnishings would be offered for the chapel in which case the nature of the needs should be made known. The Executive Committee gave general approval to this report.

18. Date and place of next meeting

Dr. Niemöller announced that arrangements had been made for the holding of the next Executive Committee at the Haus der Länder at Königstein (Taunus) near Frankfurt. Facilities were also available for the Joint Committee of the WCC-IMC to meet there prior to the Executive Committee meeting. Members of the Executive were asked to arrive on the evening of February 1st and it was hoped that the meeting would close by noon of the 5th.

19. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 12.10 on Sunday, August 9th.

APPENDIX A

WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

Evanston Preparatory Literature

Volume I

"The First Six Years of the W.C.C."

1. General Survey of Development described by the General Secretary

2. Main Actions of the Central and Executive Committee

3. Departmental Reports

("Description of actual work since Amsterdam" and "Objective and Critical Appraisal")

A. (Study
(Faith and Order
(Evangelism

B. (Youth
(Ecumenical Institute
(Life and Work of Women in the Church
(Laymen

C. Inter-Church Aid and Service to Refugees

D. Publications: Ecumenical Review, EPS, Ecumenical History

E. Finance and Adminstration: Commentary on the Accounts

F. CCIA

G. East Asia Secretariat

H. New York Office

Appendices

A. Action of Central and Executive Committees

Chichester 1949	Resolution on Religious Liberty
Bossey 1950	Message to the Churches on ~~Liberty~~ Human Rights.
Toronto 1950	Resolutions on Religious Liberty
Toronto 1950	The Church, the Churches and the W.C.C.
Toronto 1950	Statement on the Korean Situation and World Order
Toronto 1950	Letter to Christians in Korea
Bièvres 1951	Letter to the Member Churches
Rolle 1951	The Calling of the Church to Mission and Unity

Lucknow 1953 — Letter to the Member Churches
Lucknow 1953 — Letter to the President of the United Nations Assembly
Lucknow 1953 — References to South Africa

B. 1) Members of Central and Executive Committees
2) Headquarters' staff since Amsterdam
3) Accounts 1949-52

Assembly Work Book

Policy and Programme Suggestions for Assembly Business Committees

1. Report of Committee on Structure and Functioning including aims and functions of divisions and departments.

2. Committee on Constitution, Structure and Functioning of World Council of Churches.

   a) Report of Committee on Structure and Functioning (above)
   b) General Policy Recommendations, Basis of Membership, etc.

3. Committee on Membership and Relationships

   a) Any recommendations from Central Committee
   b) Relationships with IMC including (i) Recommendations from Joint Committee of IMC and WCC, (ii) CCIA, (iii) Asia Secretariat

4. Committee on Division of Studies

5. Committee on Ecumenical Interpretation

6. Committee on ICA - Service to Refugees

7. Committee on Department of Information

8. Committee on Finance

Appendices

1. Constitution and Rules of WCC, including Charter of CCIA and Constitution of:
   (i) Youth
   (ii) Faith and Order
   (iii) ICA
   (iv) Graduate School of Ecumenical Studies

2. List of Member Churches

3. Draft Budget, etc.

APPENDIX B

REVISED PROGRAMME

August Sat. 14	A r r i v a l a n d R e g i s t r a t i o n		
Sun. 15	10:00 a.m. Opening Service of Worship First Methodist Church	2:00 - 3:30 p.m. Opening plenary meeting Presentation of the Main Theme (2 speakers)	8:00 p.m. Soldiers'Field
Mon. 16	Worship 10:00 - 12:00 a.m. Plenary session Constituting Actions for Assembly Report of Central Committee General Secretary's Report	3:00 - 5:00 p.m. Plenary session General Discussion Report of Structure and Functioning Assembly Arrangements	8:00 p.m. Presentation of Section on Evangelism Report of Secretariat for Evangelism Plenary session
Tues.17	Worship 10:00 - 12:00 a.m. Main Theme: Group Discussion	3:00 - 5:00 p.m. Main Theme Group Discussion	8:00 p.m. Presentation of Section on Unity Report of Faith and Order Plenary session
Wed. 18	Worship 10:00 - 12:00 a.m. Main Theme: Group Discussion	2:00 - 3:00 p.m. Plenary session Structure and Functioning 3:00 - 5:00 p.m. Main Theme Group Discussion	8:00 p.m. Presentation of Section on the Responsible Society Address: Asia and Africa ask searching questions

Thur. 19	Worship		
	10:00 - 12:00 a.m.	3:00 - 5:00 p.m.	
	Main Theme: Group Discussion	Committee on WCC Business	S y m p h o n y
Fri. 20	Worship		
	10:00 - 12:00 a.m.	2:00 - 4:00 p.m.	8:00 p.m.
	Committees on WCC Business	Committees on WCC Business	Presentation of Section on International Affairs Report of CCIA
		4:00 - 8:00 p.m.	
		Confessional meetings if desired	
Sat. 21	Worship		
	10:00 - 12:00 a.m.	3:00 - 5:00 p.m.	8:00 p.m.
	Presentation of Section on Race Section on Vocation Report of Ecumenical Institute	Committees on WCC Business	Service of Preparation for Communion
Sun. 22	Worship Holy Communion	F r e e	8:00 p.m. Report of Department of Inter-Church Aid and Service to Refugees
Mon. 23	Worship		
	10:00 - 12:00 a.m.	3:00 - 5:00 p.m.	8:00 p.m.
	Sections	WCC Business	Report of Study Department, Report of Women's Commission Report of Youth Department
Tues. 24	Worship		8:00 p.m.
	10:00 - 12:00 a.m.	3:00 - 5:00 p.m.	Report of Joint Secretary in East Asia and on relations with IM Speech: Worldwide Evangelism in thi generation
	Sections	Sections	

Wed. 25	Worship		
	10:00 - 12:00 a.m.	3:00 - 5:00 p.m.	8:00 p.m.
	Sections	Sections	Plenary: Main Theme
Thur.26	Worship		
	10:00 - 12:00 a.m.	3:00 - 5:00 p.m.	
	Plenary: Main Theme	Plenary: WCC Business	F r e e
Fri. 27	Worship		
	10:00 - 12:00 a.m.	3:00 - 5:00 p.m.	8:00 p.m.
	Plenary: Sections	Plenary: WCC Business	Speech: Tensions of the world and unity in Christ
Sat. 28	Worship		
	10:00 - 12:00 a.m.	F r e e	8:00 p.m.
	Plenary: Sections		Plenary: WCC Business
Sun. 29	Worship	4:30 p.m. Speech: The Church's dependence on God; its independence from men	8:00 Plenary: Sections
Mon. 30	Worship		
	10:00 - 12:00 a.m.	3:00 - 5:00 p.m.	8:00 p.m.
	Plenary: Sections	Plenary: WCC Business	Plenary: WCC Business
Tues.31	9:00 - 11:30 a.m.		
	Plenary: Sections		
	11:30 a.m.		
	Closing Worship		

N.B. Times of meetings and titles of speeches are purely tentative.

WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

COMMITTEE ON STRUCTURE AND FUNCTIONING

Draft

Statements of Aims and Functions of Divisions and Departments

1. DIVISION OF STUDIES

The aim of the Division shall be to serve the churches by promoting ecumenical studies on the fundamental issues of their faith and life, so that they may increasingly think together, advance in unity, render common witness and take common action in the social and international field.

The functions of the Division of Studies shall be:

i) to work out the policy and determine the programme of studies concerning questions which are of crucial importance for the life of the churches and of the ecumenical movement as a whole.

ii) to be responsible for and to plan studies in preparation for the Assemblies and other major meetings of the World Council.

iii) to co-ordinate and to help to plan studies which are required by the work of other divisions.

iv) to serve as a clearing house for studies undertaken in and by the churches.

v) to provide background information on trends of thought and life about which the churches need to be informed.

vi) to co-ordinate the studies undertaken by the Departments on Faith and Order, Church and Society and Evangelism.

a) Department on Evangelism

The aim of the Department shall be to serve the churches by promoting ecumenical study and consultation on the evangelistic calling and task of the churches.

The functions of the Department shall be:

i) to undertake studies concerning the method and content of the evangelistic approach of the Church toward those outside her life.

ii) to collect and circulate to the churches information on effective approaches to evangelism.

iii) as and when requested, to help churches in activities of common witness and evangelism.

iv) to keep prominently before the World Council, all its divisions and departments and its member churches, their evangelistic and missionary obligation.

b) Department on Faith and Order

The aim of the Department shall be to draw the churches out of isolation into conference about questions of faith and order.

The functions of the Department are stated as follows in paragraph 3 of the Constitution of the Faith and Order Commission:

i) to proclaim the essential oneness of the Church of Christ and to keep prominently before the World Council and the Churches the obligation to manifest that unity and its urgency for the work of evangelism.

ii) to study questions of faith, order and worship with the relevant social, cultural, political, racial and other factors in their bearing on the unity of the Church.

iii) to study the theological implications of the existence of the ecumenical movement.

iv) to study matters in the present relationships of the Churches to one another which cause difficulties and need theological clarification.

v) to provide information concerning actual steps taken by the Churches towards reunion.

c) Department on Church and Society

The aim of the Department shall be to serve the churches by the study of problems arising out of their mission in and to society.

The functions of the Department shall be:

i) to select for recommendation to the Division the crucial problems of society about which the churches should declare their common mind and take action including (in consultation with C.C.I.A.) such basic problems of international life and inter-racial relations as require long range study.

ii) to study in the light of the Christian faith, and together with competent persons from different churches and walks of life, such problems in this field as have been assigned to it by the Divisional Committee.

iii) to disseminate the results of such studies.

iv) to keep the churches informed about important developments in society.

v) to acquaint the churches with the action taken by other churches in this field.

vi) to assist other divisons or departments in relating their activities to society.

2. DIVISION OF ECUMENICAL INTERPRETATION (Formation Oecuménique)

The aim of the Division shall be to serve the churches by promoting the growth of ecumenical consciousness amongst their members, by relating ecumenical knowledge and experience to the whole life of the churches and by working for the renewal of the churches through active ecumenical encounter.

The functions of the Division shall be:

i) to work out policies and methods which will enable the World Council to achieve these aims, and in particular to help in ensuring the participation of local congregations in the life of the ecumenical movement.

ii) to co-ordinate the plans of the Ecumenical Institute, the Youth Department, the Department on the Laity, and the Department on the Service and Status of Women in the Church.

iii) to guide the four departments in the carrying out of their activities so as best to achieve the aims of the Division.

iv) to help the churches to relate ecumenical thinking to Christian education in all its aspects.

v) to foster co-operation between the World Council and other organisations in so far as this will further the aims of the Division.

vi) to serve as a clearing-house for experiments and new methods of ecumenical education and consultation.

a) Ecumenical Institute

The aim of the Ecumenical Institute shall be to serve the churches as a centre of ecumenical study and teaching, worship and experience, where men and women may deepen their understanding of questions affecting the unity, renewal and witness of the Church.

The functions of the Ecumenical Institute shall be:

i) to hold educational courses for a wide variety of individuals and groups within the churches with a view to the development of ecumenical consciousness at every level.

ii) to arrange for consultations of representatives of the same professions or occupations with a view to studying the fundamental assumptions of a given profession and the Christian witness of individuals within it, and, in co-operation with the Department on

the Laity, to help in co-ordinating work done in this realm by national groups.

iii) to arrange study conferences of lay experts and theologians on problems which call for pioneering in thought and action on the part of the churches or of the ecumenical movement as a whole.

iv) to provide through the Graduate School of Ecumenical Studies a thorough grounding in the history, objectives, and problems of the ecumenical movement for senior students, pastors and members of theological teaching staff and to help them to undertake specialized studies on ecumenical subjects.

v) to co-operate with the Department on the Laity, the Department on the Service and Status of Women in the Church and the Youth Department so that all work in this field may be integrated.

vi) to co-operate with the Division of Studies in these activities of the Institute which are relevant to the work of that Division.

b) Department on the Laity

The aim of the Department on the Laity shall be to keep before the churches their responsibility for helping the Laity to serve their churches and to witness before the world, to strengthen laymen's work in the churches and to promote fellowship between church-related organisations of laity throughout the world.

The functions of the Department shall be:

i) to assemble and disseminate information about developments in work for the laity in different countries.

ii) to consult with national laymen's institutes and organisations on topics requiring study, and to arrange for the ecumenical consideration of these topics.

iii) to provide a news bulletin, surveys, bibliographies and particular studies as may be required.

iv) to arrange for regional conferences of laymen.

v) to arrange for the visitation of laity in different countries by persons able to advise on the development of laymen's work and to stimulate new experiments.

vi) to co-operate with the Ecumenical Institute, the Department on the Service and Status of Women in the Church, the Youth Department and the Division of Studies in all matters concerning the work of this department.

c) Department on the Service and Status of Women in the Church

The aim of the Department shall be to serve the churches in two related ways: by helping women to make their full contribution

to the total life of the churches, and at the same time encouraging the churches to accept the contribution of women to a fuller extent and in more varied ways; and by stimulating wider and deeper co-operation between men and women within the churches and in society as a whole.

The functions of the Department shall be:

i) to foster an ecumenical outlook in women's organisations in the various churches and countries by promoting co-operatin among them and by securing their participation in the ecumenical movement.

ii) to promote among men and women, through the Divisions of the World Council of Churches and directly, the study of questions affecting the co-operation and common service of men and women in the churches and in society.

iii) to keep actively in touch with groups of all kinds which are working within the area of the Department's aim, or whose work might have a bearing upon it.

iv) to advise and co-operate with the Ecumenical Institute, the Department on the Laity, the Youth Department and any other ecumenical body on all questions affecting the work of the Department.

d) Youth Department

The aim of the Youth Department is, within the general policy of the Division of Ecumenical Interpretation to keep before the churches their responsibility for youth, to keep before Christian youth their responsibility to play their full part in ecumenical movement and especially in the World Council of Churches, to create ecumenical fellowship among Christian young people and to strengthen the youth work of the churches in all parts of the world.

The functions of the Department are:

i) to provide means by which Christian youth of all countries and churches may meet, learn about and help one another.

ii) to encourage young people to participate fully and responsibly in the life and witness of their own churches and of the World Council of Churches.

iii) to interpret the life and work of the World Council of Churches and the ecumenical movement to youth leaders and young people.

iv) to offer to young people means of expressing their ecumenical convictions by stimulating and co-ordinating financial and other types of aid for churches and national councils wishing to establish or develop youth work and, for meeting emergency situations affecting young people and by sponsoring international

interconfessional service projects and encouraging national initiative in setting up such projects.

v) to encourage the participation of young people themselves in the formulation of policy and the direction of activity in youth work at the local, national, regional and world levels.

vi) to provide opportunities for the churches to examine together the needs of youth and to advise each other about policy, programme and activities leading to Christian commitment and growth in Christian faith and life.

vii) to provide opportunities for fellowship and exchange of experience among church youth leaders.

viii) to collaborate with independent international Christian youth organisations and movements in ecumenical activities of common concern.

3. DIVISION OF INTER-CHURCH AID AND SERVICE TO REFUGEES

The aim of the Division shall be to further, on an ecumenical basis, the renewal of the churches through practical help which churches may render one another, through the relief of human need, and through Service to Refugees.

The functions of the Division shall be:

i) to provide, on the basis of mutual study and consultation, a total strategy of Inter-Church Aid and Service to Refugees in which the initiatives and programmes of all Churches and National Committees can be related to one another, and thus be given maximum usefulness.

ii) to secure and disseminate information about the needs of the Churches and of refugees, and also about the gifts and services which may be made available to meet these needs.

iii) to find contributions to meet requests.

iv) to suggest projects and spheres of need which might be neglected and should receive attention.

v) to operate, at the request of the churches such services as may best be carried out co-operatively, e.g. for refugees.

vi) to receive and administer such gifts, whether earmarked or unearmarked, as Churches and other bodies place at its disposal.

vii) to co-operate with the I.M.C. on terms mutually agreed, and to report to its officers and governing committees on all matters concerned with Emergency Inter-Church Aid and Relief in countries outside Europe.

4. DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION

The aim of the Department shall be to make the policies of the World Council of Churches known and understood, to provide news of its activities and to inform the churches about each other's life.

The functions of the Department of Information, under the supervision of the General Secretary, shall be:

i) to carry out the information policy of the Central Committee of the World Council.

ii) to issue general publicity material about the World Council of Churches and to supervise departmental publicity.

iii) to represent the World Council in relation to the church press and the general press and to issue all press releases in the name of the W.C.C. and its divisions.

iv) to provide such information- and article-services as will help the churches to be well informed about the life of other churches and of the ecumenical movement as a whole.

v) to prepare publicity material for those divisions or departments which require the services of the division for this purpose.

vi) to work out a general policy concerning the regular publications of the W.C.C., to co-ordinate such publications and to give guidance to those who are responsible for their preparation and presentation.

5. DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

The aim of the Department shall be to provide the World Council and its divisions and departments with financial, accounting and general services needed and to assist the General Secretary in certain specified fields of administrative responsibility.

The functions of the Department shall be:

i) to maintain the books of account, to supervise expenditure in relation to budgets and approved levels of expenditure and to prepare all financial reports and the annual accounts.

ii) in consultation with the General Secretariat and the divisions and departments, to prepare draft budgets and to collect the contributions of member churches to the general budget.

iii) to make all payments and operate all bank, postal check and cash accounts both in relation to the General Budget and to the Division of Inter-Church Aid and Service to Refugees and to supervise all salary payments, keep salary records and administer the salary scales for Office Staff.

iv) to operate the following general services at Geneva headquarters: mail, telephone, telegrams, insurance, cyclostyle, maintenace heating and lighting of buildings, provision of office furniture and supplies, and the purchase and transportation of all supplies needed.

v) to undertake specific responsibilities at the request of the General Secretary, particularly in connection with the organisation and administration of Assemblies and meetings.

vi) to administer the properties of the World Council of Churches.

Geneva,
August 5, 1953.

WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES APPENDIX D

COMMITTEE ON STRUCTURE AND FUNCTIONING

Proposed Insertion in Rules of the W.C.C.
in relation to National Councils

Section X Consultative Relationships

The present clause to be left unaltered, but to be given the following heading: 1. International Missionary Council.

A new item to be added as follows:

2. National Councils

a) The World Council, recognising that the churches in several countries have established National Councils for purposes of fellowship and cooperation with one another and for the promotion and support of ecumenical activities within their own area, shall invite selected National Councils to enter into working relationships as associated Councils.

b) The purpose of such working relationships shall be to encourage National Councils to serve the World Council of Churches in the promotion of ecumenical activities in the area concerned and in the furthering of the plans and policies which the Central Committee has laid down for the various divisions and departments of the Council.

c) These Councils shall be regularly designated to receive invitations to send a representative to the meetings of the Assembly and Central Committee (in accordance with Section VII ii of the Constitution.) Such representatives shall have the status of fraternal delegates at the Assembly and consultants at the Central Committee.

d) Opportunity shall be provided at the time of any meeting of the Assembly or Central Committee for these representatives to meet together for mutual consultation.

e) The following criteria, among others, shall be applied by the Central Committee in selecting National Councils for these working relationships:

i) Acceptance by the National Council of the Basis of the World Council of Churches, or expressed willingness to cooperate on that Basis.

ii) Consultation with the member Churches of the World Council in the area concerned.

iii) In the case of National Councils which are members of the International Missionary Council consultation with that Body.

iv) Membership of the National Council consisting wholly or to a large extent of churches which hold membership in the World Council.

v) Interest of the National Council in the work of the World Council, and willingness to work for it.

vi) Stability of the National Council including the availability of an officer with time to devote to World Council concerns.

f) In the case of countries where National Missionary Councils exist, whether integrated in or associated with National Councils of Churches or independently, the Central Committee may invite an additional representative to the Assembly or Central Committee.

g) While the World Council retains the right to deal with its member churches directly, no action shall be taken by it which would disturb any already existing fellowship or ecumenical organization within a nation or region.

h) Any member church which prefers to have direct relationships with the World Council in any field of work can have such direct relationships without affecting its relationship with the National Council to which it belongs.

3. World Confessional Associations

Such World Confessional Associations as may be designated by the Central Committee shall be invited to send fraternal delegates to the Assembly, and consultants to the Central Committee.

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APPENDIX E

WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

Communication from the Remonstrant Brotherhood in Holland concerning the BASIS of the W.C.C.

During the meeting of the International Congregational Council in St.Andrews (June,1953) the delegates of the Remonstrant Brotherhood transmitted to the General Secretary of the World Council of Churches the following statement which had been drawn up by their Church in Holland :

" To all of us the question of the "basis-formula" of the World Council of Churches is most important. It touches the core of ecumenical unity.

We know that it is as follows: "The World Council of Churches is a fellowship of churches who accept Jesus Christ as God and Saviour".

We are informed of the propcsition that the coming Assembly will not alter the wording concerning Jesus Christ, in accordance with the conclusion at which the Sub-Committee arrived in its report accepted by the Central Committee at Lucknow, January 1953: "that it is not desirable that the next assembly should make a change in the present basis".

We all have to decide on our attitude in this matter and try to come to an understanding to the best of our abilities.

It is inevitable that churches that originated in times and countries so far apart, in spite of the essential unity binding them together, should be different in nature and that for them identical words may have a differently accentuated meaning.

That is why it is essential that we should not drift into argument,but that we should arrive at a wording which every church can take seriously and consequently accept.

The important thing of the present wording "Jesus Christ as God and Saviour" is that it is short. All further interpretation would divert the attention from the main issue. Among many current formulations also used in churches working in the same periods and areas, it is desirable that we should find one with which we can all agree.

It is imperative that it be short and on no account in contradiction with the Gospel. It may be recognised as a part of the living tradition in our churches and should be recognised as such.

We on our part recognise the present basis-formula in this way and accept it as an interpretation of the Christian "kerugma", even though we are aware of the fact that in our worship and in our Christian witness other formulations of this "kerugma" also have their place, as is the case in every church. Both the accepted form of our public worship and the preaching of the Gospel cannot do without a certain freedom of expression.

Among the other formulations extant everywhere, we accept the basis-formula of the W.C.C. as an expression in which we recognise each other in our common work and common faith, so that it can be considered as "truly a basis in that the life and activity of the World Council is based upon it."

Secondly we consider it desirable that, for the sake of this very brevity, the W.C.C. abstains from adding a further interpretation or from binding it to a more definite wording. So

far not a single special interpretation has been pronounced authoritative by the World Council. Binding the basis-formula to one single and definite interpretation would inevitably lead to sectarianism. This should above all be avoided. Any further addition or binding interpretation - including that of the Holy Trinity and the Incarnation - might be explained in various ways. Owing to the wealth of biblical data the W.C.C. should not proceed to recognising one single interpretation as the only permissible one. But in all this it is imperative to stress more clearly than has been done so far "the own unique character of our fellowship, that has a specific source and a specific dynamic", which the report mentions. The great distress and the terrible confusion from which the world is suffering, urge us to do this, that people may recognise through a clear expression, what is the main-spring of this special dynamic force in the service of God and Christ. For it springs from the true compassion as we see it in Jesus Christ. This holds good for all belonging to the W.C.C. both in the field of "Life and Work" and of "Faith and Order". Then shall not we all want to express this as our principle that all may clearly see the nature of the W.C.C. which does not in any way strive for power?

The character of the W.C.C. in the world will be made more clear by this, because we express what cannot and may not be denied.

Thus we wish to accept the basis-formula: "Jesus Christ as God and Saviour" unchanged and we wish to word this formula, binding us all together as follows:

"The World Council of Churches is a fellowship of Churches, wh
filled with compassion on the distress of men and world, accept
Jesus Christ as God and Saviour". "

A group consisting of Dr. Klein and Dr. Heering (representing the Remonstrant Brotherhood), Dr. Douglas Horton and Dr. Berry (of the International Congregational Council) and the General Secretary of the W.C.C. met at St. Andrews to consider this statement. Dr. Visser't Hooft expressed his gratitude for the fact that the Remonstrant Brotherhood which had made a proposal for changing the Basis accepted the decisions of the Central Committee at Lucknow in a truly ecumenical spirit. He made it clear that the new proposal made by the Remonstrant Brotherhood could in any case not be adopted by the Assembly since there would be no time for the Central Committee to consider it and to make a proposal concerning a change in the Constitution. But the Assembly could discuss such a possible addition in view of its adoption at the third Assembly.

After further discussion the proposal was put in the following form :

" to add to the present basis the words : and therefore seek to manifest the oneness of the Church of Christ and moved by His compassion to minister to the needs of men".

WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES APPENDIX F

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE TO THE ASSEMBLY

in accordance with Central Committee resolution, Lucknow Minutes item 21, p.36, which reads:

AGREED: to approve the report as amended and to refer the question as to the way in which the Basis is to be put before the Assembly to the Executive Committee, it being understood that discussion of the Basis must occur since three member Churches have requested changes therein.

Discussion of the Basis is governed by Article I of the Constitution, p.115, Official Report, which states:

'Whereas several delegates in the Assembly have expressed either for themselves or for their churches, the desire for clarification or amplification of the affirmation of the Christian faith set forth in the basis of the Council (Article I) therefore it is

RESOLVED that this Committee recommend to the Assembly:

(a) that this Assembly of the World Council of Churches affirm its conviction that the basis set forth in the Constitution is adequate for the present purposes of the World Council of Churches

(b) that any churches that may desire change in the basis be instructed to present their desires in writing to the Central Committee for study and report to the next Assembly;

(c) that the Central Committee be instructed to keep its study of possible changes within the Christological principle set forth in the present basis.'

I.

The Central Committee, having received requests from the Remonstrant Brotherhood, the Religious Society of Friends of Philadelphia and the Presbyterian Church in Australia, appointed a sub-committee consisting of Dr. Douglas Horton (Convener), Professor Georges Florovsky and Bishop Anders Nygren to consider these requests and to report upon them. The sub-committee presented this report to the Central Committee at Lucknow and indicated that, between 1951 and 1952 it had received many memoranda, articles and letters on the subject of the Basis, had held several meetings and had conducted an extensive discussion through correspondence. The committee reached the conclusion that it could not recommend action upon the suggested changes since these would not be in fact within the Christological principle set forth in the present Basis asked for specifically by Committee IV at Amsterdam.

The Central Committee accordingly recommends to the Assembly that the Basis be not changed.

II

In the Report of the sub-committee to which the Central Committee has given approval the view was expressed that the fact of the Incarnation and the doctrine of the Trinity have witness borne to them by implication in the Basis.

III

The Committee recommended that, in view of the many widespread misunderstandings concerning the purpose and function of the Basis of the Council, it might be also useful to state anew just what the World Council means by a Basis. The sub-committee prepared a tentative draft statement on this subject which is printed in Appendix . The Central Committee gave general approval to this suggestion and lays it before the Assembly.

REPORT OF SUB-COMMITTEE ON THE FURNISHING OF THE CHAPEL AT THE ECUMENICAL INSTITUTE

APPENDIX G

The Sub-Committee met on the afternoon of April 22nd,1953, in the Chapel at Bossey. There were present:

Prof.P.Evdokimov, Rev.P.MacLaughlin, Bishop Ernst W.Stählin, Rev.R.Tobias,Rev.Y.M.Todd, Mlle S.de Diétrich, Dr.H.Kraemer, Dr.R.C.Mackie,Dr.W.A.Visser't Hooft,M.Bonnard and M.Lesemann.

The Sub-Committee decided to make the following recommendations:

I. Sanctuary

a) All were agreed in recommending that there should be 4 articles provided for the Sanctuary made in wood:

1. a simple pulpit and a simple lectern designed to stand at the extreme ends of the platform on either side with,if possible, a. line in their design on the inside which would lead the eye towards the Communion Table. The pulpit and the lectern might well have carving upon them, in each case a Christian symbol;

2. a prayer desk which might be substituted on occasions for the lectern,or which could be used in some other part of the Chapel;

3. a suitable additional table for use at certain Communion services, especially Orthodox .

All these articles would be movable,so that the Sanctuary could be reconstructed to suit different forms of Service.

b) With regard to the Communion Table itself, all were again agreed in recommending that it should be of wood, that it should not be raised on a platform, that it should be built as a table with the legs exposed, but that it might be adjusted in size,perhaps a little higher, shorter, and broader than the present Table. This however would depend upon final drawings and upon the relation to the older elements in the Sanctuary.

There should be no Cross on the Table. Two sets of candlesticks should be provided: a large set of wood to stand on the floor, and another whether of wood or metal to stand on the Table as might be decided on specific occasions.

c) With regard to the treatment of the wall behind the Communion Table, there was no united recommendation. Two possible ways of handling this question were suggested:

1. the wall might be left as it was, simply with a Cross in wood or in iron placed upon it ;

2. a specially woven tapestry to hang from the roof behind the Table with a Cross or Christian symbol woven into it or added. In addition to the tapestry, there might be a carpet to tone with it under the Table and reaching down the steps.

II. With regard to the rest of the Chapel,it was decided to suggest that the large windows to the court and the small window opposite them should be left for consideration until the other elements in the Chapel had been fixed. It was possible that at a later date some stained-glass might be introduced.

It was agreed that it might be interesting to have Christian symbols cut like mason's marks on some of the larger irregular stones appearing in the walls of the Chapel.

It was felt that it would be helpful if the chairs could be given a still darker colouring, and a recommendation as regards kneelers was that they should be provided for individuals, should not be bulky, and should be hung from the back of the chair in fromt. The question of their material was left open, but the possibility of rubber cushions which would keep cleaner was raised.

III. It was decided to make no suggestion as to the outside of the Chapel. One of the architects pointed out that some time it might be interesting to have a large Cross set apart from the Chapel under the trees at the entrance.

IV. With regard to a musical instrument, it was decided to advise that no action should be taken without the matter being brought back to the Board, and it was recommended that a special Committee of musicians should be asked to advise in this matter.

V. It was made clear by Dr.Visser't Hooft that these recommendations would go before the Board of the Institute, and that in all probability artists in various countries would be asked to submit designs.